

**Office of Select Board
945 Battle Street/Rte. 127
Webster, NH 03303**

6:30 pm – Select Board’s Meeting – March 3, 2014

Select Board present: Chairman Bruce Johnson, Selectman Fanjoy and Selectman Mason Donovan.

Chairman Johnson made a couple of announcements/reminders: 1) Town voting is Tuesday, March 11th; 2) Town Meeting is Saturday, March 15th. Chairman Johnson thanked Mrs. Jones for the all work done on the Annual Town Report. He stated the public utility grant for the wood pellet boiler had been accepted. Selectman Donovan added that Thursday, March 6th is the School District Meeting. He reminded everyone that the school district is 60% of the Town’s tax base.

The Select Board signed the payroll and check manifests.

- Selectman Fanjoy made a motion to accept the February 18, 2014 minutes as written; seconded by Selectman Donovan and unanimously approved.
- Select Board re-signed minutes for January 20, 2014 for the records.
- Select Board signed Timber (Yield Tax) Warrant – Map 3-55.
- Selectman Fanjoy stated the pump for the well at Town Hall had failed earlier today. An emergency call was made to Capital Well. The pump had to be replaced. Selectman Fanjoy made a motion to approve Purchase Order #8 to Capital Well in the amount of \$2,620.00 to be expended from the Town Hall Capital Reserve Fund; seconded by Selectman Donovan and unanimously approved.

Lieutenant Philip Mitchell advised the Select Board of the following:

- He advised of the calls for service from the last two weeks.
- Selectman Donovan asked Lt. Mitchell if there were any State Police or other local PD assists in the past month. Lt. Mitchell stated there were two separate incidents; a domestic call one evening and a suspicious vehicle in the Pillsbury Lake District. Boscawen PD assisted in both cases.
- Chairman Johnson stated next Monday, March 10th, was the Police Advisory Committee Meeting and Wednesday, March 12th, was the Pillsbury Lake District Annual Meeting. Selectman Fanjoy stated he would get back to him as to his availability to attend either or both.

Firefighter Ryan Dubuc advised the Select Board of the following:

- 5 calls for service; couple of list assists; sick person; respiratory problems; building fire in Andover-mutual aid.
- Chairman Johnson made a motion to approve Purchase Order #5 to Beltronics, Inc. for \$415.45 for repair & installation of radio in Deputy Fire Chief’s vehicle; seconded by Selectman Donovan and unanimously approved.
- Selectman Fanjoy made a motion to approve Purchase Order #6 to Industrial Protection Services, Inc. for replacing compressor pressure switch \$337.50 and hydro testing of 2 DOT cylinders \$300.00 for a total of \$637.50; seconded by Chairman Johnson and unanimously approved.
- Selectman Fanjoy made a motion to approved Purchase Order #7 to Apollo Safety, Inc. for carbon monoxide meter in the amount of \$295.00; seconded by Selectman Donovan and unanimously approved.
- Firefighter Dubuc requested a purchase order to Bergeron for replacement of bunker gear in the amount of \$2,135.00. Selectman Fanjoy made a motion to approve a purchase order request to Bergeron in the amount of \$2,135.00 to be expended from the regular Bunker Gear account; seconded by Selectman Donovan and unanimously approved.
- Deputy Fire Chief, Jake Drown, has been working with COPART to install a Knox Box. He will meet with them Friday, March 7th.
- Firefighter Dubuc relayed a request from Fire Chief Wolinski for approval to spend up to \$600.00 on cold fire foam. The only foam the FD has is in the fire trucks. Firefighter Dubuc stated the FD was in contact with other town FD’s to see if they want to go in on an order to reduce costs. Selectman Fanjoy made a motion to allow the Fire Department to purchase up to \$600.00 worth of foam to be expended from the regular Fire Dept. Equipment account; seconded by Selectman Donovan and unanimously approved.
- At this time, Road Agent Bean informed the Board the weather stripping in front of Engines 2 & 3 is junk. He stated there was a one half inch gap; you can feel the wind blowing in.
- At this time, Selectman Donovan stated the Board would be having a 10 minute slide show at Town Meeting. The slides will include pictures of the Public Safety Building roof. Firefighter Dubuc stated he did have some pictures which he will send to Selectman Donovan for the presentation.

Road Agent Bean advised the Select Board of the following:

- Two storms ago, Mr. Bean’s snowplow was damaged while plowing out the Public Safety Building due to the tar sticking up. He stated he spent two days repairing the plow.
- The snow has been pushed back off the roads and into the ditches so when it melts the water will flow in the ditches and not the roads.
- There are a lot of potholes. Agent Bean informed the Board of a product called “Super Patch” available at Pike Industries in Hooksett. He stated it was a bit pricey but it can be worked at this time of year. Road Agent Bean told the Board he has been filling in the holes with sand but that only lasts a day or two. After a brief discussion, Board agreed to have Road Agent Bean pick up 10 tons of the Super Patch.
- Agent Bean felt there was going to be quite a mud season. He stated he did not have much gravel and suggested he could start bringing loads of gravel from Edmunds in anticipation of the season. The Board was in total agreement.
- Road Agent Bean discussed his highway budget. Mr. Bean stated he understood that Chairman Johnson had not been not pleased with the budget presentation. He asked for advice as to where he went wrong and what should he do for next year. Chairman Johnson stated he was not complaining about Agent Bean; he was complaining about the budget process itself and he assured Agent Bean that he did support the highways and roads budget. Agent Bean stated there are a lot of ‘ifs’ when it comes to the highway and roads. Monies could be used for gravel or tar or salt or mowing; a lot depends on the weather and the season.

B. J. Johnson

R. E. Fanjoy

M. W. Donovan

- At this time Ms. Susan Roberts informed the Board that diesel fuel has increased from \$3.89 to \$4.12 and still going up and in the meantime, Agent Bean's rates haven't changed. After a brief discussion, Selectman Fanjoy stated he totally agreed with their concerns about the diesel. Selectman Fanjoy stated the Board will have to sit down with Road Agent Bean to figure out a solution. Selectman Donovan then apologized on behalf of himself for not taking more time to sit down with departments and develop plans and goals.
- Agent Bean stated he had spoken with John at COPART about posting the roads. Agent Bean would give him 3 to 4 day notice.
- At this time Mr. Richard Inman of Pearson Hill Road referred to the UNH Road Study and wanted to know if the Board had an action plan. Chairman Johnson stated the Board planned on looking at the study in the spring after plowing season was over and decide what to do for summer work and use the UNH Study as a guide.
- Mr. Robert Pearson III of Little Hill Road referred back to Ms. Roberts' question about diesel fuel. He asked the Board how were they going to compensate them. A discussion followed.

Old Business:

- PSB – Selectman Donovan stated he had researched the documents and contracts for the Public Safety Building. He found the building to be structurally sound hence one cannot go after the builder. He did not find any guarantees or statements that would justify restitution to fix the building. He stated that in the end, the Town chose a building based on a price that was lower than the maximum amount the Town wanted to spend, i.e., "We got what we paid for." Selectman Donovan did not see any recourse that the Town would have. He stated it was a building that was not built for a heavy snowfall area. The Town chose that building and that design; not the builder. Selectman Donovan stated the Town needs to protect its assets. A brief discussion followed.
- Personnel Policy – Selectman Donovan stated the Personnel Policy covered all Town employees including the Police Department. He stated the amendment the Board had made granted the department heads the ability to have their employees work on holidays. Mr. Inman stated he was under the impression that the Police Chief had the overall say regarding policies and personnel under the police department not the Board of Selectmen. Selectman Donovan stated the Town's Personnel Policy impacts all departments in the Town. The Police Chief has leeway within that and he has control over managing his own department. Selectman Donovan stated the change in the Personnel Policy now gives the Chief the ability to require officers to work the holiday. The Board then agreed to make minor word changes without using the wording suggested by NHMA. Chairman Johnson will send the revision to Mrs. Jones for processing.
- Fine ordinance – Selectman Donovan made a motion to amend the "Road Ordinance" (*Traffic Rules and Regulations*) to read, "Penalty for not abiding by road weight restrictions will result in a \$250.00 fine for the first offense; \$500.00 fine for the second offense; \$750.00 fine for the third plus additional offenses within a twelve-month period in addition to restitution for any road damage. All fines are payable within 10 days to the Town Clerk."; seconded by Selectman Fanjoy. After a brief discussion the Board unanimously approved Selectman Donovan's motion. This amended ordinance is effective immediately.
- Agent Bean pointed out that once he posts the roads, the only exemptions are the Highway and Fire Departments. Selectman Fanjoy will check with NHMA regarding exemptions from the weight limit. At this time Selectman Fanjoy made a motion to give Emmett Bean, the Road Agent, the authority to post the roads at his discretion; notify the office (Town Hall) beforehand so they can notify the Select Board the roads are being posted; seconded by Selectman Donovan and unanimously approved. After a brief discussion Agent Bean and the Board agreed to have staff at Town Hall notify Agent Bean of requests for permission from truckers to travel the posted roads and the staff will issue the exemption permits on behalf of Agent Bean depending on Agent Bean's decision. The office staff will also notify the Police Department. Selectman Fanjoy will create a list of vendors in the area that will need to be notified. Chairman Johnson will have Mrs. Jones write a letter to those vendors.

New Business:

- Chairman Johnson made a motion to accept a donation to the office from Mason Donovan of a computer screen with a value of \$200.00; seconded by Selectman Fanjoy and unanimously approved.
- Gerrish and Bashan Hollow Roads – Chairman Johnson referred to RSA 231: 191:1 *Maximum Weight Limits*; "The governing body of a municipality may establish maximum weight limits, seasonal or otherwise, which are more restrictive than limits set forth..." by other RSA's. "...when the highway agent determines that such highway requires postings to prevent unreasonable damage or extraordinary municipal maintenance expense." Selectman Donovan stated the RSA was very clear it was up to the Road Agent to determine the weight restriction determined by the road's needs. Road Agent Bean stated it was up to the Select Board to decide what to do even though the RSA states the "highway agent". Selectman Donovan stated that as a Road Agent, Mr. Bean needed to tell the Select Board what is the safe weight for that road so it doesn't cause damage. He added that if the road is fine the way it is, Mr. Bean needs to tell the Board. After a brief discussion, Agent Bean stated that road would hold whatever you put on it; it's the culvert that needs replacing. Selectman Donovan stated for clarification, that in Mr. Bean's expertise as the Road Agent, was telling the Board that he did not see a need to reduce the weight limit for that road. Selectman Donovan stated the other options were "No Through Trucking" and a speed limit review, both would be up to the Select Board and the Police Department to determine. Chairman Johnson stated he would contact NHMA for advice.
- Town Meeting prep. – Discussion centered around the Board's 10 minute Power Point presentation before the Business Meeting of Town Meeting on March 15th to inform the residents about the warrant article for the Wood Pellet Furnace and repairs to the Public Safety Building in addition to showing how the budget works and where and how the money has been spent. Selectman Donovan stated that Bob Pearson, III, Town Moderator, did a good job last year explaining to the public the Town Meeting voting procedures. The Board would like him to do that again this year. A general discussion followed between the Board, Mr. Pearson and Mr. Bean regarding Town Meeting.
- Deed for Harty property has been received; gifted to the Town – Map 10-1-54 & 10-1-59.

9:20 PM Selectman Donovan made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Selectman Fanjoy and unanimously approved.

Bruce G. Johnson, Chairman
BOS/tel

Roy E. Fanjoy

Mason W. Donovan

B. J. Johnson

R. E. Fanjoy

M. W. Donovan